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### SHE MUST HAVE BEEN CALLED

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# SHE MUST HAVE BEEN CALLED

Jacquelyn Nasti

*Andrea Saunders Gereighty / Academy of American Poets Award Third Place*

She was not always attached to him.  
Her apron strings hung unknotted,  
before her name changed and wounds  
changed from scrapped knees  
that could be soothed by a kiss

to being split open  
and never quite healed back up.  
Children were a distant thought back  
when she allotted herself dreams.

She could see a future in the spilt  
table salt, an omen wound  
up in a future name.

If only she kept her maiden name,  
gave back the vow.  
Lot would manage, would salt  
his fish alone by the sea

and she would never bounce  
a daughter or two on her knee.

Angels and prophets repeated  
the words of a god.  
She took them with a grain of salt.

The crown of her head, down her back  
to her feet became a compound born of sea,  
inscribing her for her namelessness,  
known in legend only as the wife of Lot.